

We Claim:

1           1. A system in a vehicle including a plurality of  
2 components comprising:

3                 a display for displaying a plurality of items each  
4 representing a respective one of the components, the  
5 displayed items being arranged on the display in  
6 substantially the same relation to one another as the  
7 components represented thereby in the vehicle;

8                 an interface for selecting at least one of the  
9 items; and

10                a processor for operating the component  
11 represented by the selected item.

1           2. The system of claim 1 wherein said vehicle  
2 comprises an automobile.

1           3. The system of claim 1 wherein said display  
2 comprises a liquid crystal display (LCD).

1           4. The system of claim 1 wherein said interface  
2 includes an indicator device for selecting the at least one  
3 of the items.

1           5. The system of claim 4 wherein said indicator  
2 device comprises a mouse device.

1           6. The system of claim 1 wherein said interface  
2 includes a touch-screen capability.

1           7. The system of claim 1 wherein said component  
2 includes a seat.

1               8. The system of claim 1 wherein said component  
2 includes a window.

1               9. The system of claim 1 wherein said component  
2 includes a windshield wiper.

1               10. The system of claim 1 wherein said component  
2 includes a mirror.

1               11. The system of claim 1 wherein said component  
2 includes a vent.

1               12. The system of claim 1 wherein said component  
2 includes an audio system.

3               13. A system in a vehicle comprising:  
4                a display for displaying a first item indicative  
5                of the vehicle, and at least a second item indicative of an  
6                object;

7                a processor for defining a zone on the display,  
8                said zone including the first item but excluding the second  
9                item, said zone representing an area in which the vehicle  
10          is; and

11              an output for generating a signal when the object  
12          is detected to be within the area.

1               14. The system of claim 13 wherein the object is  
2          a second vehicle.

1               15. The system of claim 13 wherein the zone is  
2          defined as a function of at least a relative distance of the  
3          vehicle from the object.

1               16. The system of claim 13 wherein the vehicle is  
2 in automatic driving.

1               17. The system of claim 16 further comprising a  
2 controller for initiating a termination of the automatic  
3 driving.

1               18. The system of claim 16 further comprising a  
2 mechanism for detecting second signals for guiding the  
3 vehicle in the automatic driving, the output generating a  
4 third signal when one or more of the second signals are not  
5 detected.

1               19. The system of claim 18 wherein each of said  
2 second signals includes a presence of a magnetic field.

1               20. The system of claim 13 further comprising a  
2 mechanism for displaying on the display a representation of  
3 any object within a predetermined distance from the vehicle.